

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 412

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, UR

SUBJECT: RECENT SOVIET-ALLIED DISCUSSIONS IN BERLIN

REFS: (A) USBERLIN 136; (B) USBERLIN 76;

(C) USBERLIN 154; (D) BONN 1349

1. SUMMARY: IN ADDITION TO PROMPTING FURTHER
DISCUSSION OF FRG CONSULAR LAW (REPORTED REF A),
SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELLOR RODIN RECENTLY RENEWED WITH
BRITISH (CHAIRMAN) POLAD QUESTION OF ALLIED PARTIC-
IPATION IN COMMEMORATION OF THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF
VICTORY OVER NAZI GERMANY, AND DELIVERED TO HIM
STATEMENT REITERATING LOW-KEY SOVIET PROTEST (REF B)
AT ACTIVITIES OF BUND FREIES DEUTSCHLAND (BFD).
BRITISH POLAD, FOR HIS PART, SOUGHT TO COUNTER DURING
MOST RECENT MEETING SOVIET EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY
BURDAKIN'S REPORTED COMMENT (REF C) THAT SOVIET UNION
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WOULD ADOPT "NEGATIVE" ATTITUDE TOWARDS ESTABLISHMENT
OF EC VOCATIONAL CENTER IN WEST BERLIN. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING CALL BY BRITISH POLAD JANUARY 22, SOVIET COUNSELLOR RODIN BROUGHT UP AGAIN QUESTION OF ALLIED PARTICIPATION IN SOVIET CEREMONY TO COMMEMORATE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORY OVER HITLERIAN FASCISM. POLAD SAID THAT, WHILE WE GREATLY SYMPATHIZED WITH COMMEMORATION OF WORLD WAR II DEAD AND WERE FULLY AWARE OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF SOVIET UNION TO STRUGGLE, WE WOULD NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY CEREMONIES IN BERLIN. POLAD GAVE NO RESPONSE WHEN RODIN ASKED WHETHER BRITISH, IF INVITED, WOULD ATTEND CEREMONY AT SOVIET MEMORIAL IN TIERGARTEN (BRITISH SECTOR OF (WEST BERLIN) (PARA 4, REF C). SUBSEQUENTLY, WHEN THIS CONVERSATION WAS REPORTED TO FRENCH AND US MISSIONS, FRENCH POLAD QUESTIONED WHETHER BRITISH POLAD SHOULD NOT HAVE RESPONDED WITH CATEGORICAL "NO" TO RODIN'S PARTING QUESTION. BRITISH POLAD JUSTIFIED HIS LACK OF RESPONSE ON GROUNDS THAT BMG WOULD PROBABLY WISH TO HAVE OBSERVERS PRESENT AT ANY EVENTUAL SOVIET CEREMONY AT TIERGARTEN MEMORIAL TO ENSURE SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH ARRANGEMENTS THAT, ACCORDING TO ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES, WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT IN ADVANCE WITH BMG. (COMMENT: BRITISH NORMALLY HAVE OBSERVERS PRESENT DURING CEREMONIES AT SOVIET TIERGARTEN MEMORIAL, AND WE SEE NO REASON WHY THEY SHOULD NOT EXERCISE THIS SUPERVISORY ROLE IN POSSIBLE VE DAY COMMEMORATION. END COMMENT.)

3. RODIN CALLED ON BRITISH POLAD JANUARY 27 TO DELIVER STATEMENT THAT BUND FREIES DEUTSCHLAND (BFD) SHARED MANY AIMS OF NAZI PARTY AND SHOULD THEREFORE NOT BE PERMITTED TO EXIST IN WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN. BRITISH POLAD REMINDED RODIN THAT, DURING LUNCH WITH YEFREMOV JANUARY 10 (REF B), AMBASSADOR HENDERSON HAD CLEARLY STATED THAT ALLIES DID NOT CONSIDER BFD A FASCIST PARTY AND THAT YEFREMOV HAD SUBSEQUENTLY WITHDRAWN THE LABEL. POLAD ALSO POINTED OUT THAT, UNDER POLITICAL PRINCIPLES OF POTSDAM PROTOCOL OF AUGUST 2, 1945 (IA 9 II), ALLIED ADMINISTRA-
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TION WAS DIRECTED TO ENCOURAGE ALL DEMOCRATIC PARTIES BY GRANTING RIGHTS OF ASSEMBLY AND PUBLIC DISCUSSION. POLAD ADDED THAT SINCE SUBJECT HAD TO DO WITH WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN, FOR WHICH THREE ALLIES WERE RESPONSIBLE, HE COULD PROMISE NO ANSWER. HE WOULD, HOWEVER, UNDERTAKE TO CONSULT US AND FRENCH MISSIONS. (COMMENT: RECOGNIZING, PERHAPS, THAT THEY ARE NOT ON FIRM GROUND, SOVIETS HAVE BEEN ONLY HALF-HEARTED IN THEIR NOISES ON BFD. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT SOVIETS DO NOT INTEND TO PRESS MATTER FURTHER, AND WE BELIEVE

THAT BRITISH POLAD'S STATEMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH
AMBASSADOR HENDERSON'S REMARKS OF JANUARY 10,
CONSTITUTES SUFFICIENT RESPONSE. END COMMENT.).

4. IN COURSE OF SAME CALL JANUARY 27 BRITISH POLAD
MENTIONED THAT ALLIES DID NOT AGREE WITH SOVIET EMBASSY
FIRST SECRETARY BURDAKIN'S JANUARY 24 COMMENTS ON EC
(REF C). HE POINTED OUT THAT, UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF AK
DECLARATION ON BERLIN OF MAY 1955, FEDERAL LEGISLATION
REGARDING NATIONALITY, UNIFICATION OF CUSTOMS AND
TRADE AREA, NAVIGATION AGREEMENTS, FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT
OF GOODS, AND FOREIGN TRADE AND PAYMENTS ARRANGEMENTS
COULD BE EXTENDED TO BERLIN WITHOUT OBJECTION. TREATY
OF ROME HAD COME INTO FORCE IN BERLIN IN 1957 SUBJECT
TO NORMAL ALLIED RESERVATIONS, AND WEST BERLIN HAD
BEEN INCLUDED IN EC ACTIVITIES FOR SOME FIFTEEN YEARS
PRIOR TO QA SIGNATURE. RODIN SAID THAT SOVIETS DID
NOT OBJECT TO COMMERCIAL ASPECTS OF EC, BUT WERE
WORRIED ABOUT ITS OBJECTIVE OF POLITICAL UNITY.
BRITISH POLAD POINTED OUT THAT THIS OBJECTIVE HAD NOT
YET BEEN REACHED, AND THAT ALLIES WERE CAREFUL TO
ENSURE THAT ALL INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND LEGISLATION
ADOPTED IN BERLIN DID NOT CONFLICT WITH CITY'S STATUS.GEORGE

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